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Miri retiree loses over RM2.24 mln to Touch 'n Go scam

MIRI: A 66-year-old woman here lost over RM2.24 million of her savings and pension after falling victim to a phone scam recently.

Miri police chief ACP Mohd Farhan Lee Abdullah said the victim, a private sector retiree, lodged a police report on Sept 30.

He explained that the woman had received a call from an unknown number, with the caller claiming to be a representative of Touch 'n Go and accusing her

of being involved in an online fraud syndicate.

"She was then connected to another individual, who posed as a police officer from the Pulau Pinang Police Contingent Headquarters.

"The suspect instructed the victim to withdraw all her savings, including funds from her Employees Provident Fund (EPF), and surrender them through bank transfers and cash," he said in a statement

yesterday.

Mohd Farhan said the cash was later collected by an unknown man at a secluded location.

"As a result, the victim suffered total losses amounting to RM2,244,404 through over-the-counter bank transfers, online transactions, and cash handovers—all carried out under the pretext of investigation," he said.

The victim only realised

she had been cheated after finally conducting checks and verification.

Mohd Farhan said the case is being investigated under Section 420 of the Penal Code, which carries a jail term of between one and 10 years, caning, and a fine upon conviction.

He also reminded the public that police or enforcement agencies in Malaysia never conduct financial dealings in such a manner.